

STUDENT PIRGS' NEW VOTERS PROJECT MAKE THEM PAY ATTENTION TO US



2007-2008 PROGRAM SUMMARY

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The Student PIRGs

The Student PIRGs (Student Public Interest Research Groups) are a network of non-partisan student-directed and student-funded organizations working on more than 200 college campuses in 30 states to solve public interest problems and increase civic engagement.

In close partnership with a network of PIRG advocates in state capitals across the country and in Washington D.C. , we work to increase the youth vote, tackle global warming, make education more affordable, address homelessness and more. More than 10,000 students get involved in our projects every year—for more information visit www.studentpirgs.org.

A project of the Student PIRGs, our nonpartisan New Voters Project has worked for 25 years to mobilize young voters to the polls and convince politicians to pay attention to the voice of young people across the country.





YOUTH VOTE OVERVIEW, 2007-2008

YOUNG PEOPLE put another brick in democracy's foundation this election cycle.

An estimated two million more young Americans under the age of 30 cast a ballot than in 2004. This increase followed a primary season in which young voter turnout rates doubled in states across the country—even tripling in Iowa, Mississippi, Florida and Oklahoma, and quadrupling in Tennessee.

What explains the rise in turnout among young voters?

Young people are more civically engaged and involved today than they have been in years, a factor that spilled over to the political arena. Technology provided new avenues for political expression among young voters. High-stakes

and a polarized political climate created a heightened sense of political awareness. And the star power of the candidates added to the excitement.

In turn, political campaigns focused more of their attention to young voters. They relied on many of the proven techniques of peer-to-peer

young voter outreach pioneered by the non-partisan Student PIRGs and other grassroots voter mobilization efforts.

The result was remarkable. Campuses across the country crackled with excitement around the election: Student leaders stormed dorms, invaded classrooms and hopped on their cell phones to make sure friends registered to vote and showed up on Election Day. As a result, young voters on college campuses across the country lined up in big numbers.

This historic election confirmed two basic principles upon which the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project has operated for 25 years:

First, the best way to turn out the youth vote is for one young person to ask another young person to show up on Election Day.

Second, and most importantly, when you pay attention to young people, they will pay attention to you.

PREVIOUS PAGE: University of Wisconsin students line up to vote on November 4th. A WISPIRG-lead coalition helped to register more than 6,000 students to vote on campus. Across the country, youth turnout increased by at least two million over 2004 levels.



2007-2008 Program

SINCE OUR INCEPTION 25 years ago, the non-partisan Student PIRGs' New Voters Project has played a leading role in mobilizing young voters, highlighting their importance, developing and refining the techniques and technology used to reach them, and ensuring their right to cast a ballot once they appear at the polls.

In 2007 and 2008, we expanded these efforts.

Our *What's Your Plan?* Campaign helped place young people and issues important to them in the spotlight early in the campaign season.

More than 500 student volunteers in 28 states appeared at fundraisers, town hall meetings and stump speeches on the primary campaign trail

or submitted a photo petition to ask the candidates their plans on key youth issues such as global warming, healthcare, financial security, and college affordability. Ultimately, these volunteers talked directly with the presidential candidates on 106 occasions, helping to impress upon the campaigns the importance of paying attention to young voters this election cycle.



Our campus young voter mobilization model integrated technology—such as texting and Facebook—with tried and true grassroots organizing techniques. The effort thus reached both young voters submerged in an increasingly wired world and also students unlikely to register due solely to online outreach.

“By training the next generation in the skills of mobilizing young voters, the Student PIRGs played a key role in making sure the voices of millennials were heard at the polls this year.”

Laura Simolaris
Director, National Programs
Harvard Institute of Politics

Our extensive on-the-ground young voter mobilization efforts on one hundred campuses in twenty states generated 400,000 personal voting reminders in the days before the election and helped to register 85,000 young voters.

To ensure the rights of young people to vote once they arrived at the polls, our election protection program conducted aggressive outreach to local registrars to preempt Election Day problems. And on November 4th, we placed a network of poll-watchers at student precincts to identify and remove student voting barriers.

From engaging candidates in Iowa to ask their plans on global warming to texting tens of thousands of students “get out the vote” reminders to monitoring polls for elections violations, the thousands of student leaders and professional organizers trained by the Student PIRGs’ New Voters Project played a key role this election in making politicians pay attention to young voters.

PREVIOUS PAGE: An Iowa PIRG student leader from Iowa State University asks a fellow student to pledge to caucus during the first contest of the 2008 election season. Iowa PIRG partnered with Rock the Vote in the weeks leading up to the Iowa caucuses in a program called Rock the Caucus to mobilize young voters on Caucus Day. As part of this effort, Iowa PIRG identified 250 “caucus rock star” student leaders, who each recruited 20 of their friends to pledge to caucus on January 3rd.

ABOVE: A table set up by WISPIRG student leaders at the University of Wisconsin urges students to pledge to vote in the days leading up to the November 4th election.



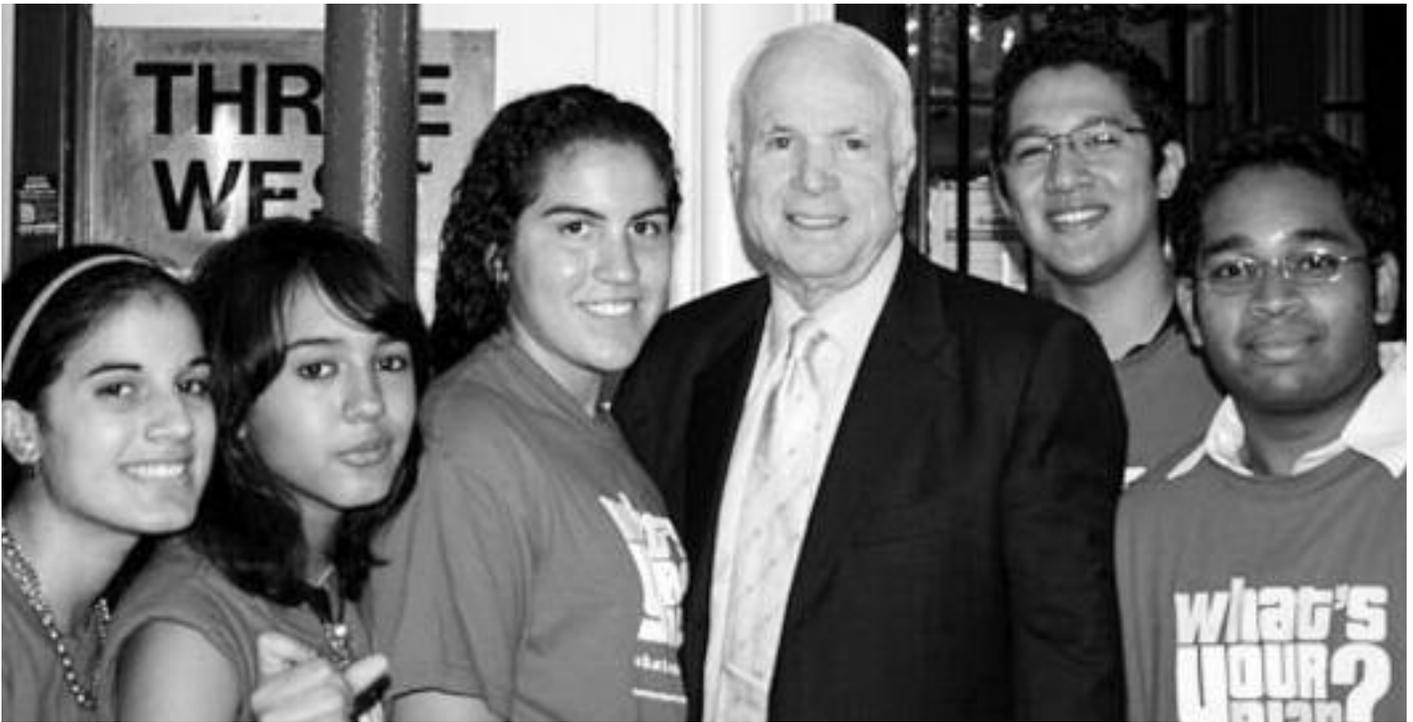
AFTER SIGNIFICANT YOUTH VOTE increases in 2004 and 2006, the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project approached the 2008 election cycle with a singular goal—to ensure that young voter turnout continued its upward trajectory. To accomplish this objective, we knew it would be essential that the presidential campaigns pay more attention to young people, breaking the cycle of mutual neglect that led to a steady decrease in young voter participation prior to 2004.

As the primary season kicked off, many campaigns were already talking about what they could do to better engage young voters. We decided to give all the candidates a little nudge to make sure talk turned into action.

As the first presidential contest of the election cycle, the Iowa caucuses provided a golden

opportunity to showcase the power of the youth vote. If we could establish a strong youth presence there, we would create a ripple effect through the rest of the primary season.

So we trained a dedicated group of Iowa student leaders who mobilized thousands of their peers around a two-pronged effort. First, our



volunteers appeared at fundraisers, photo-ops and town hall meetings to ask the candidates face-to-face, and in front of crowds and television cameras, to outline their respective plans on global warming, college affordability, healthcare and financial security. Second, we recruited 250 “Caucus Rock Stars”—Iowa student leaders who recruited 5,000 of their friends to pledge to caucus and helped turn them out.

In the first few months of our *What’s Your Plan?* Campaign, we had a hard time catching the attention of the candidates. Our volunteers often experienced difficulty getting into events to talk to the candidates and were often ignored when they raised their hands to ask questions. But the candidates couldn’t help notice as more and more volunteers from the New Voters Proj-

PREVIOUS PAGE: *What’s Your Plan?* campaigner asks Senator Barack Obama his plan to stop global warming at a campaign stop in New Hampshire. Over the course of the primaries, more than 500 student volunteers asked the candidates their plans on key youth issues 106 times.

ABOVE: Students ask Senator John McCain about his plan to stop global warming outside a fundraiser in New York City early in the primary season.

ect showed up at campaign events everywhere they went.

At a local campaign stop, Senator John McCain thanked an Iowa State University student volunteer with the *What’s Your Plan?* campaign for her work, announced “this is what America is all about,” then asked her to explain the campaign to the audience.

Volunteers sporting our bright blue shirts showed up at Senator Hillary Clinton’s campaign events in Iowa, Washington, Colorado and Massachusetts in the span of a week. At a speech in Ames, Senator Clinton exclaimed, “I see you young people from PIRG everywhere!”

In the days leading up to the caucuses, Senator Barack Obama published a column in the University of Iowa paper that referenced the number of young people asking his plans on issues such as global warming and healthcare.

As the campaign intensified and the caucus date approached, the buzz on college campuses was unmistakable, even to politicians who traditionally ignored young voters. And in the end, months of hard work paid off.

“At dozens of stops in primary races across the country, student volunteers with the Student PIRGs’ *What’s Your Plan?* campaign helped inject young people and their issues into the political debate early in the election season.”

Heather Smith
Executive Director
Rock the Vote

On January 3rd, 2008, three times as many young voters turned out to caucus than in 2000. Iowa PIRG student volunteers in college-dominated precincts reported overflowing rooms and caucuses bursting with energized young voters. The consensus of local and national media, as well as the political establishment, was that the youth vote turned out BIG.

The momentum continued into the first primary of the season in New Hampshire as the large turnout of young voters in Iowa caught the attention of candidates. In an interview with *MTV News* following her New Hampshire primary victory, Senator Hillary Clinton articulated a renewed commitment to reaching out to young voters: “My support among young people will grow. We are going to be doing more and more outreach. ”

As we hoped at its outset, the youth vote momentum continued through the rest of the primary season. Youth turnout doubled in New Hampshire, tripled in Georgia and quadrupled in Tennessee. Campaigns and national political insiders began to point to the youth vote as a key constituency.

TOP RIGHT: Twenty-three-year-old Ryan Crane asks Senator Joe Biden his plan to make a college education affordable. A student at the University of Northern Iowa, Ryan mobilized hundreds of fellow students to pledge to caucus in January—leading dorm storms, organizing tabling events on campus, and making class announcements.

BOTTOM RIGHT: University of Connecticut students ask Governor Mitt Romney his plans to make a college education affordable at a New Hampshire campaign stop during the primary season.



Ultimately, over the course of the primary season, more than 500 Student PIRG volunteers asked the candidates their plans to stop global warming; make college affordable; ensure financial security; and provide affordable, effective healthcare. Two hundred and fifty Iowa student leaders recruited 5,000 of their friends to caucus; and hundreds more mobilized thousands of their friends to go to the polls in the primary states.

By the end of the primary season and our *What’s Your Plan?* campaign, young people had been injected into the national political discourse to a greater extent than in any cycle in recent memory, and most importantly the myth that young people don’t vote and young people don’t matter had been laid to rest.



FROM CNN/YOUTUBE candidate debates to live MySpace-MTV candidate forums, technology played an unprecedented role this election season. No demographic was more impacted by this Elections 2.0 explosion than young voters.

The Student PIRGs' efforts were more high-tech than ever in 2008, as we fully integrated our on-the-ground and online young voter mobilization efforts.

With partners at CREDO Mobile, Princeton University, the University of Michigan and the University of Notre Dame, we conducted two key studies that demonstrated the effectiveness of text messages in increasing youth turnout. Among the findings; text message reminders sent to a study sample of mostly young voters on Super Tuesday in February 2008 increased turnout among our sample population by 4.6 percentage points.

In the months leading up to Election Day, the

Student PIRGs comprehensively incorporated text messaging into our on-the-ground campus voter mobilization efforts. Highlighted in the *Los Angeles Times* and *Washington Post*, our Text Out the Vote program stopped thousands of students on their way to class and asked them to text "student vote" to 41411. The TextMarks service returned a 'Don't Forget to Register to Vote at studentvote.org,' which the student was then asked to forward to all of his or her friends.

In one example of this technology's success, a CALPIRG organizer, Gerald Nicdao, was able to generate more than 500 text message reminders to register in just a couple hours at a Text Out the Vote table on the UCLA campus.

“When it comes to mobilizing young voters, no one can match the work of the Student PIRGs. That’s why CREDO Mobile works with the Student PIRGs to ‘text out the vote’ and bring young voters to the polls on Election Day. With their smart use of cell phones, Student PIRGs are on the leading edge of employing social media to create social change.”

**Becky Bond
Political Director
CREDO Mobile**

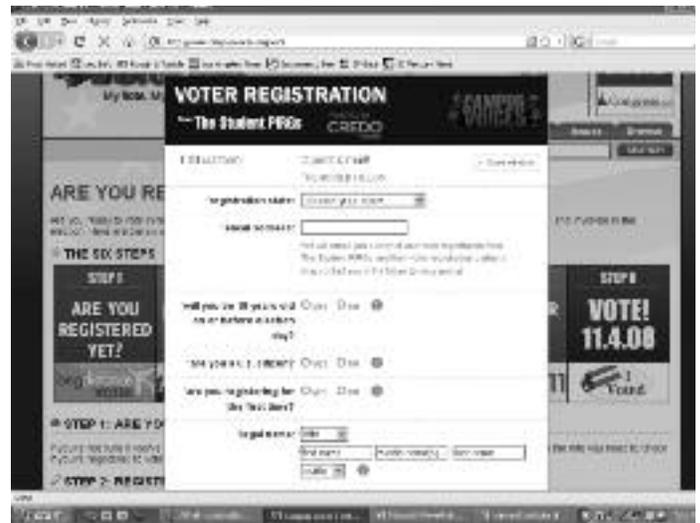
Partnering with CREDO mobile, the Student PIRGs also created a voter registration “widget” linked to by dozens of university and youth-oriented websites. The online tool ultimately helped register 23,000 young voters on more than 1,500 campuses across the country. We drove young voters to the tool—primarily housed at *studentvote.org*—through a creative, on the ground visibility campaign that targeted an estimated audience of 1.5 million students.

Campuses that placed the widget on highly trafficked sites generated tremendous numbers of registrations in short periods. At New Jersey’s Rutgers University,

OPPOSITE: An NCPiRG ‘Text Out the Vote’ table at North Carolina State features Text-Rex the dinosaur and asks students to text ‘Student Vote’ to 41411, then forward a returned ‘register to vote’ reminder to their friends.

TOP RIGHT: The new Student PIRG voter registration widget developed by CREDO Mobile is featured on the Harvard University Institute of Politics Campus Voices web site.

BOTTOM RIGHT: CALPIRG student leaders at the University of Southern California ask Senator McCain his plan to stop global warming live on MTV.



for example, an online registration campaign generated more than 3,000 downloaded registration forms in just a few weeks.

We also created new Facebook and MySpace applications through which students could challenge each other to launch voter registration and get out the vote drives and send each other ‘gifts of democracy’—Election Day-themed Facebook gifts like a ‘vote boat,’ ‘vote troll,’ and ‘vote purse’ that reminded students to show up at the polls.

CALPIRG student leaders at the University of Southern California even won an on-line MySpace contest to ask Senator John McCain his plan to stop global warming live on MTV!



RESEARCH conducted on the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project and other grassroots voter turnout efforts is unequivocal, the key to ensuring high turnout among young voters is first registering get them and then establishing multiple personalized contacts urging them to the polls in the few days before the election.

The non-partisan Student PIRGs' New Voters Project integrated our tested turnout model into every phase of our mobilization efforts on college campuses across the country. Through our on-the-ground and online efforts, 85 organizers and 2,000 student volunteers trained by the project helped generated 400,000 individualized voter contacts in the days leading up to the election and helped to register 85,000 young voters.

We kicked off the effort at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, co-hosting

events that celebrated the youth vote with the Democratic National Committee Youth Council and the Young Republican National Federation.

Once students returned to school, leaders launched hundreds of creative events on college campuses to drive young voters to the polls—from "McCain-Obama" celebrity saber matches in Colorado to 'street registration teams' in Wisconsin that mobbed students on their way to class and asked them to register.



Students dressed up as pirates at the University of New Mexico asked students on campus “AAAAR you registered to vote?” They also built a “Vote Boat” that was featured on the PBS program NOW. Registration leader and senior at the university Katryn Faher, was interviewed for the program, which highlighted efforts to register young voters in the state.

At the University of Arizona, a partnership between Arizona PIRG, the Arizona Student Association, and a host of student organizations organized a massive mobilization effort that ultimately helped to register more than 4,800 students to vote.



“It has been a real pleasure partnering with Iowa PIRG and the New Voters Project during the 2008 General Election and other past elections. Through this relationship, we were able to engage more first-time voters than ever before. It is our hope to continue building on our progress for future elections. ”

Michael A. Mauro
Iowa Secretary of State

OPPOSITE: A University of California CALPIRG student volunteer urges fellow students on their way to class to register at the Student PIRGs newly launched registration website, studentvote.org. The Student PIRGs trained more than 2,000 student volunteers over the course of the election cycle to run registration drives on their campuses.

ABOVE LEFT: Students at the University of Colorado dress up as the presidential candidates to build election buzz on campus.

ABOVE RIGHT: Sean Carroll, Student PIRG New Voters Project organizer, helps a UCLA student register to vote. Sean was one of 85 organizers trained by the project to launch young voter mobilization drives on 100 campuses across the country.

Student leaders with CoPIRG at the University of Colorado, Denver, coordinated a “Get Out the Vote” event with eleven organizations, including CoPIRG, Hip Hop Congress, three student government organizations, Students for Obama, Students for McCain and four non-profits. Offering “five texts a slice,” the students distributed pizza at a table set up on campus, and had students wearing McCain and Obama masks box in a giant inflatable boxing ring. At one point, the boxers were joined by the entire women’s softball team!



Working with the Harvard Institute of Politics, the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project also trained 120 College Republicans, College Democrats and college newspaper editors in the skills of running voter registration and mobilization drives at a September conference held at the Kennedy School of Government.

The media caught on to high level of youth engagement around the election, running positive stories that helped to reinforce the idea that young people could make a difference in the 2008 election. The work of the Student PIRGs to mobilize young voters generated more than 850 media hits over the course of the election cycle.



Initial comparisons of 2008 vs. 2004 turnout data provided by local elections officials in student precincts targeted by the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project pointed to the success of the effort:

- University of South Florida, Precinct 353—a 48% increase over 2004.
- Iowa State University, Precinct 4-5 - at least a 39% increase over 2004.
- University of Connecticut, District 1—a 48% increase over 2004.

ABOVE LEFT: University of New Mexico senior and NMPIRG student leader Katryn Faher's efforts to register students on her campus was featured in an October PBS NOW story about efforts to register young voters in the state.

ABOVE RIGHT: Student PIRG New Voters Project Program Director Sujatha Jahagirdar is interviewed by *News Hour with Jim Lehrer's* Judy Woodruff about historic youth vote trends and the effectiveness of peer-to-peer outreach efforts in turning out the youth vote.



PROTECTING THE YOUTH VOTE

IN ORDER TO ENSURE that young people were able to vote once they reached the polls, the Student PIRGs' New Voters Project worked to protect the ability of students to cast a ballot throughout the election cycle and on Election Day.

Our work to protect the student vote began early, during the Iowa caucuses. As the buzz among young voters grew, some campaigns appeared to grow uncomfortable with the possibility of a large young voter turnout and issued statements that questioned the ability of all Iowa students to participate on Election Day.

Iowa PIRG quickly sprang to action. Within 48 hours, 20 student government leaders, student organizations and even the right-guard tackle for the University of Iowa signed onto a

strongly-worded statement that denounced the attempts to disenfranchise students.

The furor caught the attention of several media outlets, including the *New York Times* and *Cedar Rapids Gazette* editorial boards, which issued their own denouncements.

The outcry was successful. Within days, major campaigns retracted their challenges to Iowa student voting rights.

We continued our election protection efforts



with an aggressive outreach effort to local registrars in order to identify and proactively address potential barriers to student voters well before Election Day. Some highlights from this effort include:

PREVIOUS PAGE: Students spent three hours or more in line throughout much of the day at the University of Southern Florida in order to vote. A Student PIRG-established network of student poll watchers flagged an early problem at a student polling place and working with a local election layer, corrected the problem by 9:30 am.

ABOVE: Student PIRG New Voters Project Program Director Sujatha Jahagirdar (left) and Matthew Segal, Executive Director of the Student Association for Voter Empowerment (right), testify before Congress regarding barriers to student voters. The project integrated efforts to protect student voters throughout the election season, conducting aggressive outreach to local registrars to prevent Election Day problems, extensively educating students about voting requirements, and establishing a network of poll-watchers to flag and help solve problems on Election Day.

In Denver, CoPIRG organizers worked with the local registrar's office to ensure that campus registration drives could continue right up to the October 6th voter registration deadline, convincing the registrar to accept forms from across the state at one central location rather than require them to be mailed to dozens of counties across the state by the deadline.

At Indiana University, after prompting by a campus coalition that included INPIRG, the local registrar agreed to establish early voting on campus for three days before the deadline.

In cases where registrars persisted in creating voting hurdles for students, we highlighted these barriers in the media. When a local registrar in Virginia issued a memo that warned students of a potential loss of tax and scholarship status if they registered to vote where

“Student PIRGs’ work to highlight barriers to student voters played a key role in protecting young people’s right to vote this election season.”

Wendy Weiser
Deputy Director, Democracy Program
Brennan Center

they attended school, the Student PIRGs denounced the misleading information in the *New York Times* and *USA Today*.

Student PIRGs’ New Voters Project Program Director Sujatha Jahagirdar was invited to testify before Congress at a September hearing to highlight the importance of ensuring student voting rights. Ms. Jahagirdar joined the President of Oberlin College, the Executive Director of the Harvard Institute of Politics and local registrars to highlight barriers faced by student voters for the committee.

In all our targeted states, on-the-ground organizers and student volunteers distributed tens of thousands of flyers and texted and emailed them with ID requirements, where to vote, and information about the 1-866-OUR-VOTE hotline where students could ask questions and report voting problems.

On Election Day, we also set up a network of student poll watchers to flag and solve problems at the polls. At the University of South Florida, our poll watchers flagged a problem early when election workers improperly denied students the opportunity to make an address change at the polling place and then vote by regular ballot. Working with a local election lawyer, we corrected the problem by 9:30 am.

At the University of Connecticut, when local election officials required non-students to stand in a half-hour line and students in a separate three-hour line, ConnPIRG organizers highlighted the problem in the media and worked with local officials to solve the problem.

When Jeff Howell, a MoPIRG intern participating in student Get Out the Vote activities at a St. Louis campus polling place received a text message around 2 p.m. that encouraged Obama supporters to leave the polls due to long lines and instead to show up on Wednesday, he alerted our poll-watchers. Within hours, the Student PIRGs, along with a host of non-partisan young voter mobilization groups, released a statement that condemned the deceptive tactic—which had spread across the country—and called upon media outlets to denounce the message.

Student PIRG volunteers also helped students withstand long lines on Election Day. At Temple University, the student government recruited a DJ to help students pass the time in lines that reached four hours until polls closed. When rain added another hurdle, PennPIRG handed out umbrellas and ponchos to those in line.

THE STUDENT PIRGS' New Voters Project mobilized young voters during the 2008 election cycle through an extensive civic engagement program on college campuses throughout the nation. At the core of this program was a network of 85 organizers on one hundred campuses that trained hundreds of student leaders and more than 2,000 volunteers in the basic skills of mobilizing to get their peers to the polls. Many of these students will continue their work to engage their fellow students in the political process post-election. Profiles of three such leaders are included below.



Kassie McCleery
Sophomore, Ohio State University, Ohio

In the days leading up to the election, Kassie donned a 'vote fairy' costume and stopped thousands of students on their way to

class to ask them to sign a pledge to vote on November 4th. Her efforts paid off—by Election Day, she made more than 1,000 personal Get Out the Vote contacts, a proven technique for increasing youth turnout. Post-election, she is committed to building on her work and will spearhead a campus effort to help lower textbook prices on college campuses by participating in the Student PIRGs' national *Make Textbooks Affordable* campaign. The President of the Ohio PIRG student organization at Ohio State University, Kassie is also an International Affairs Scholar and member of the John Glenn Institute Civic Leadership Council on campus.



Vanessa Smith
Sophomore, Temple University, Pennsylvania

As PennPIRG Student PIRG New Voters Project Coordinator and student government leader, Vanessa designed and imple-

mented a major voter mobilization drive on her campus, leading tabling, voter education efforts, class announcements, and text message, phone bank and dorm storm events that turned out hundreds of students to the polls. On Election Day, Vanessa led PennPIRG interns and volunteers in designing dozens of signs directing students from their dorms to their polling places, worked with Campus Safety to provide dozens of shuttles from campus to polling locations, and kept students entertained while waiting in the long Philadelphia voting lines with refreshments and music. Post-election, Vanessa will continue to work with student government

on campus and help to run a campaign to lower textbook prices for students



Alex Yohay
Senior, Rutgers College, New Jersey

The coordinator of NJPIRG's New Voters Project on campus, Alex and his team ran a grassroots campaign that helped to register more than 6,700 voters, and

made 9,400 get-out-the-vote contacts through dorm storm events, phone calling, and viral text-messaging on the Rutgers campus in the weeks leading up to the election. His favorite part of the drive was seeing the voter turn-out in student-heavy Rutgers College precincts go up as much as 58% over 2004. Post-election, Alex will help lead NJPIRG Student Chapter's Global Warming Solutions campaign to mobilize support for green energy policies in the new Congress.

Looking Ahead

In the coming months, student volunteers and organizers trained by the Student PIRGs will build upon our work during this election cycle and further expand the infrastructure for civic engagement on college campuses across the country. Applying skills learned by mobilizing young voters this election cycle, we will recruit a new cadre of students energized by the election and looking for a way to channel their enthusiasm. We also will expand the number of permanently funded Student PIRG chapters that support year-round campus civic engagement programs with professional organizers.

State advocacy groups of the Student PIRGs will organize this effort around four important public policy issues: clean energy, healthcare, transportation, and hunger and homelessness. For each, U.S. PIRG experts have already developed a platform and strategies for students to use. Students will lead awareness raising events on campus, generate media coverage of each issue, and meet with state and federal elected officials to build support for our platforms when these officials come home for recess. Through this work, advocacy groups of the Student PIRGs will train an additional 10,000 students on hundreds of campuses in the coming months in the basic skills of civic engagement, and ensure that young people participate in service and government at higher and higher levels, ultimately ensuring that voices of young people are heard for years to come.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A Thank You

The Student PIRGs would like to thank our allies in our two-decade effort to increase the youth vote: United States Student Association, Oregon Student Association, Arizona Students' Association, University of California Student Association, California State Student Association, United Council of Wisconsin, Associated Students of Colorado, the hundreds of campus student government associations too numerous to list by name, Rock the Vote, the Bus Project, Declare Yourself, Headcount, the Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the League of Young Voters.

A special thanks also to the 1989 Sheinbaum Trust; Angelina Fund; Bohemian Foundation; California Consumer Protection Foundation; Carnegie Corporation of New York; Cedar Tree Foundation; Center for Ethical Leadership; The Educational Foundation of America; Butch Weaver Tzedakah Fund of the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund; HKH Foundation; Hull Family Foundation; The James Irvine Foundation; The John Merck Fund; Joselyn Blumenthal Philanthropic Fund of the Community Foundation Serving Boulder County; Leo Model Foundation, Inc; Lighthouse Center; Open Society Institute; Picower Foundation; Tides Foundation; Tides Youth Engagement Fund; The Voter Action Fund of the Tides Foundation; Wallace Global Fund; Working Assets/CREDO; and the Working Assets/CREDO Grantmaking Fund of the Tides Foundation.

We would also like to thank Dr. Donald Green and Dr. Alan Gerber of Yale University and Dr. David Nickerson of the University of Notre Dame for their groundbreaking research on voter turnout techniques.

And, of course, we want to thank the hundreds of thousands of hardworking student PIRG volunteers, project coordinators and staff who have worked tirelessly to strengthen America's democracy over the last 25 years.

Together, we have and will continue to make a difference!

In the States:

The Student PIRGs New Voters Project is a project of the following Student PIRG chapters:

Arizona PIRG, CALPIRG, ConnPIRG, CoPIRG Student Chapters, Florida PIRG, Illinois PIRG, INPIRG, Iowa PIRG, Maine PIRG, Maryland PIRG, MASSPIRG, MoPIRG, NCPIRG, NJPIRG Student Chapters, NMPIRG, OSPIRG, PennPIRG, WashPIRG, WISPIRG

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